

## **Esophageal Resection Surgeon Volume Comments**

General Surgeon Volume Comments for all hospitals

BI Deaconess Medical Center  
Massachusetts General Hospital

### **BI Deaconess Medical Center**

Esophageal resection: The coding algorithm used here to calculate volume does not include esophageal resection procedures when performed at the same time as gastric (stomach) procedures. Therefore, the number here reported grossly underestimates the number of esophageal resections performed at those centers performing the more complicated surgeries, such as BIDMC.

### **Massachusetts General Hospital**

The definition proposed by AHRQ includes only surgeries for cancer. Since these may involve pre-cancerous or poorly defined growths, we prefer the standard of the Leapfrog Group, which does not attempt to discriminate between procedures for cancer and procedures for other diagnoses. The same surgeon will perform the procedure in either case. Sometimes definitive diagnostic information will not be available until after the fact, when final pathological reports become available.